



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MOUNTAIN REGION FIELD OFFICE
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POTATO VARIETIES 2021 SAN LUIS VALLEY, COLORADO

This report provides the results of a special survey of potato growers in the San Luis Valley, which was conducted to evaluate potato varieties planted for the 2021 crop. The survey was conducted by the USDA/NASS Mountain Region Field Office with funding from the Colorado State University, San Luis Valley Research Center. Data was collected from potato growers by return mail or by telephone interviews with enumerators. The survey was not sampled to provide a direct expansion of seeded acreage by variety or a measure of the sampling error.

Russet varieties accounted for 91.8 percent of the reported acres of all potatoes planted in the San Luis Valley for the 2021 crop, compared with 87.5 percent in 2020. **Yellow Flesh varieties** were planted on 4.8 percent of the total acreage, which was down from 5.3 percent in 2020. **Red varieties** represented 1.8 percent of the total, a decrease from 4.6 percent in 2020. The remaining 1.6 percent of the total was made up of **White, Fingerlings, and Other varieties**.

Russet Norkotah continued its ranking as the most popular variety among producers by being planted on 55.2 percent of the total potato acreage and accounted for 60.2 percent of all russet potatoes. **Norkotah Selection 296** is the most popular, accounting for 27.3 percent of the total acres planted. **Norkotah 278** claimed 8.8 percent of the acreage; **Norkotah Selection 8** accounted for 7.2 percent of the planted acres. **Norkotah Selection 3** had 7.1 percent of the planted acres. The **Canela Russet** ranked first among non-Norkotah russet varieties in 2021 by being planted on 12.3 percent of the total acreage and representing 13.4 percent of all russet varieties. The **Reveille Russet** was the second most popular non-Norkotah russet variety, at 6.4 percent of the total acreage and 7.0 percent of all russet potatoes. **Centennial Russet** planted acreage accounted for 5.0 percent of planted acreage. **Tetons Russet** planted acreage accounted for 4.8 percent of planted acreage, while **Mesa Russet** accounted for 2.6 percent of acreage. All **Other Russet varieties**, which includes Mercury, Nugget, Rocky Mountain, and others, were planted on 3.6 percent of the total acreage in the San Luis Valley.

Red varieties accounted for 1.8 percent of the planted acreage in 2021. No variety or type received enough reports to publish separately. All **Other Red varieties** includes reports of Chieftain, Ciklamen, Modoc, Sangre and others.

Yellow varieties accounted for 4.8 percent of the planted acreage in 2021. **Soraya** was the most planted accounting for 1.2 percent of the total acreage and represented 26.0 percent of all yellow flesh varieties. **Yukon Gold** was planted on 1.1 percent of the total acreage and represented 22.2 percent of all yellow flesh varieties and **Alegria** accounted for 1.0 percent of the total acreage. **Other Yellow Flesh varieties** totaled 1.5 percent of all potatoes planted.

Total White, Fingerlings and Other varieties, including research varieties and other specialty type potatoes, comprised the remaining 1.6 percent of the total potato acreage. No particular variety or type received enough reports to publish separately.

Bill Meyer
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	2016 Crop	2017 Crop	2019 Crop	2020 Crop	2021 Crop	
Variety	Reported Percent of All Potatoes				Reported Percent of All Potatoes	Reported Percent of Varietal Group
	Percent 1/				Percent 1/	
Russet Varieties:						
Russet Norkotah	37.9	43.4	44.7	49.3	55.2	60.2
Norkotah 296.....	13.8	12.5	17.9	19.4	27.3	29.7
Norkotah 278.....	6.5	7.7	3.8	7.2	8.8	9.6
Norkotah 8.....	3.8	10.4	7.2	8.5	7.2	7.9
Norkotah 3.....	9.3	7.5	11.9	13.6	7.1	7.8
Norkotah, all other 2/	4.4	5.4	3.9	0.6	4.8	5.2
Canela Russet	11.9	10.4	10.6	12.6	12.3	13.4
Reveille Russet.....	...	...	...	3.7	6.4	7.0
Centennial Russet.....	3.2	4.3	8.0	12.5	5.0	5.4
Teton Russet.....	4.9	5.2	D	D	4.8	5.3
Mesa Russet .....	...	...	6.1	3.4	2.6	2.9
Rio Grande Russet.....	3.7	4.2	D	1.7	1.8	2.0
Classic Russet	5.4	D	D	D	D	D
Other Russet 3/.....	17.0	13.5	5.7	4.3	3.6	3.9
TOTAL RUSSET.....	83.9	80.9	75.1	87.5	91.8	100.0
Red Varieties:						
Chieftain.....	1.9	D	...	1.7	D	D
Modoc .....	...	D	D	1.4	D	D
Other Red 4/	3.4	5.1	5.4	1.5	1.8	100.0
TOTAL RED	5.3	5.1	5.4	4.6	1.8	100.0
Yellow Flesh Varieties:						
Soraya .....	...	...	1.5	1.4	1.2	26.0
Yukon Gold	2.9	1.5	3.1	D	1.1	22.2
Alegria.....	3.0	D	...	1.1	1.0	20.7
Other Yellow 5/	1.7	5.0	8.0	2.7	1.5	31.1
TOTAL YELLOW FLESH	7.6	6.6	12.6	5.3	4.8	100.0
White and Other Varieties:						
TOTAL WHITE, FINGERLINGS and OTHER 6/	3.2	7.4	7.0	2.6	1.6	100.0
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Other Norkotahs include Norkotah Standard, Norkotah 112 and others.

3/ Other Russets for 2021 include Classic, Mercury, Nugget, Rocky Mountain and others.

4/ Reds for 2021 include Chieftain, Ciklamen, Modoc, Sangre, and others.

5/ Other Yellows for 2021 include Columba, Latona, Satina, Yukon Gold, and others.

6/ Other White and Other Varieties for 2021 include Laratte, Purple Majesty and others.

... Indicates varietal percentage is very minor or not available.

D Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.